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APPLICANT(S): GAZIT, Dan et al.
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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

- 1-22. Cancelled
23. (Currently Amended) A method of repairing or forming a cartilage in a subject ~~in need~~ comprising the steps of:
obtaining a mesenchymal stem cell from ~~[[of]]~~ the subject;
transfecting said mesenchymal stem cell with a recombinant vector comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding a ~~factor of the T-box family~~ Brachyury protein, so as to obtain an engineered cell which expresses a Brachyury protein ~~factor of the T-box family~~; and
administering said engineered cell to the subject at a site of cartilage damage in the subject,
thereby repairing or forming cartilage in a subject.
24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 23, wherein said mesenchymal stem cell is a ~~mesenchymal stem cell, a~~ progenitor cell, a cell that is capable ~~[[to]]~~ of differentiating [[e]] into a chondrocyte, a fibroblast or a synovial cell.
25. Cancelled.
26. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 23, wherein said cell further expresses a factor which upregulates ~~[[the]]~~ expression of the Brachyury protein ~~T-box transcription factor~~.
27. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 26, wherein said factor which upregulates ~~[[the]]~~ expression of the Brachyury protein ~~factor of the T-box~~ is FGF or BMP2.
28. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 23, wherein said method further comprises administering a recombinant vector which comprises a nucleic acid encoding a factor

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which upregulates [[the]] expression of the Brachyury protein ~~T-box transcription factor~~.

29. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 28, wherein said factor which upregulates ~~the expression of the~~ Brachyury protein ~~factor of the T-box~~ is FGF or BMP2.

30-41. Cancelled.

42. (Currently Amended) A composition comprising an engineered mesenchymal stem cell which expresses a Brachyury protein ~~factor of the T-box family~~ and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

43. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 42, wherein said mesenchymal stem cell is a ~~mesenchymal stem cell, a progenitor cell or~~ [[,]] a cell that is capable [[to]] of differentiating[[e]] into a chondrocyte, a fibroblast or a synovial cell.

44. Cancelled.

45. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 42, wherein said mesenchymal stem cell further expresses factor which upregulates [[the]] expression of the Brachyury protein ~~T-box transcription factor~~.

46. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 45, wherein said factor which upregulates [[the]] expression of the Brachyury protein ~~factor of the T-box~~ is FGF or BMP2.

47. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 45, wherein said composition is a pharmaceutical[[ly]] composition.

48-63. Cancelled.

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